



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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Disaster Field Office
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FEMA-1525-DR-VA
Commonwealth Situation Report #11
Tuesday, July 13, 2004

1. Situation

- A system of severe storms began moving through Southwest Virginia on May 24, 2004. Flash flooding occurred on May 24-25 in Tazewell and Russell counties. Tornadoes damaged homes in Lee County on May 28. Flash floods impacted Buchanan County and several other counties in Southwest Virginia over the June 12-15 period. One flood-damaged road, Route 772 in Russell County, remains closed.
- On May 25 Governor Warner declared a State of Emergency for Tazewell and Russell Counties and on June 3 expanded the declaration to include Lee County.
- On June 2, Governor Warner requested that President Bush issue a major disaster declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties. He requested federal aid through the Individual Assistance and Hazard Mitigation Assistance programs.
- President Bush granted a Federal Disaster Declaration for Lee, Russell and Tazewell counties on June 15, 2004. The Commonwealth's request to add Buchanan County was approved June 29.
- On June 25, 2004, Governor Warner signed the FEMA-Commonwealth Agreement to implement joint recovery programs.
- The incident period began on May 24 and ended June 26, 2004.
- ***Amendment #3 to the Notice of a Major Disaster, effective July 13, 2004, made all counties and independent cities in the Commonwealth of Virginia eligible to apply for assistance under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.***

2. Weather Forecast for Buchanan, Russell and Tazewell Counties

Today - Partly cloudy with 20 percent chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms. Highs in the lower to mid 80s, lows in the 60s. West winds 10-15 mph. Wednesday - Partly cloudy with 40 percent chance of scattered showers and thunderstorms. SW winds 10-15 mph with gusts. Cold frontal passage expected during the evening with winds shifting to the NW 10-15 mph.

3. Current State/Federal Priorities and Objectives

- ❑ Implement Commonwealth Emergency Relief to Localities (CERL) Program.
- ❑ Notify affected citizens and communities of the availability of federal disaster assistance.
- ❑ Address potential housing and rental resources issues.
- ❑ Implement the Hazard Mitigation Plan.

“Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities”

- ❑ Manage public expectations through targeted media releases and contacts with public officials.
- ❑ Implement Other Needs Assistance (ONA) Program.
- ❑ Prepare for Disaster Field Office closure.

4. Recovery Activities

A. Human Services

❑ Individual and Household Program

- Housing Assistance (HA)
 - As a result of an inquiry to the West Virginia State IAO regarding replacing housing, it was found that their success on the replacement housing issue with FEMA is due to the fact that authorities use a condemnation process.
 - *FEMA is considering four applicants for travel trailers and six applicants for mobile homes. One travel trailer and one mobile home have been approved as of July 10.*
- Other Needs Assistance (ONA)
 - *The Dept. of Social Services (DSS) has advised that \$84,952 was approved and approximately \$80,000 in ONA checks were disbursed last week.*
- See pages 4 and 5 for statistical information on registrations, Housing Assistance, Other Needs Assistance, Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Disaster Recovery Center (DRC).
- *The deadline to register for assistance is August 16, 2004.*
- *Three FEMA field inspectors have completed 768 inspections.*

❑ Volunteer Organizations

- ⊖ Representatives of the Mennonite Disaster Services visited the disaster area and have offered to evaluate washed-out private bridges brought to their attention by the FEMA VAL to determine if they could provide the labor to rebuild. A situation investigated in Russell County proved inappropriate for their services.
- ⊖ *Mennonite Disaster Services are evaluating a second private bridge repair.*

❑ Disaster Recovery Center

- *The DRC was closed at 1PM, Saturday, July 10, 2004. During the nineteen days the center was open, 348 visitors attended.*
 - *Help continues to be available over the FEMA helpline @ 1 800 621-3362 (TTY 1 800 462-7585).*

❑ Donations Management

- Clinch Valley Community Action (CVCA) is continuing to provide disaster relief to all local counties. *They have identified applicant needs and are shipping furniture/other items. They will be open by appointment only and expect to close within the next two weeks.* The telephone number for assistance is 276-988-5583. Applicants must continue to be referred by FEMA, American Red Cross or VDEM to be eligible.

❑ Disaster Unemployment Assistance

- Effective June 18, 2004, assistance is available for residents of the declared jurisdictions. Residents can call or visit the nearest Virginia Employment Office. As of 7/12/04, *three applications were filed. Two were approved in the amount of \$1068 and one disapproved.*

❑ **Mental Health**

- The Cumberland Mountain Community Services Board is providing mental health assistance for residents of Tazewell, Russell and Buchanan Counties. Applicants needing mental health assistance are being provided the local telephone numbers to call for service.

B. Community Relations (CR)

- ❑ *All CR field activities are complete and the CR staff has departed the DFO.*

C. Mitigation

- ❑ *Mitigation staff has departed the DFO. Work is continuing from VDEM at Trade Court.*

D. Legislative Liaison

- ❑ State legislative liaison staff continues to advise appropriate Congressional and state legislative representatives of the designated counties *from VDEM at Trade Court.*

E. Hazardous Materials

- ❑ Regional Hazardous Materials Officer is continuing to monitor situations in the area.

F. Public Affairs

- ❑ *Three news releases were made on July 9 through July 12, "Submit SBA Applications", DRC Summary" and "One Month Update".*
- ❑ *Called media to interest them in pursuing a story on hazard mitigation. A news release and illustrations of mitigation projects will be provided.*
- ❑ *Checking on opportunity to photograph Mennonites helping build or repair bridges for Media coverage.*
- ❑ *Will attend meeting today of the Russell County Disaster Recovery Task Force.*

G. Disaster Recovery Task Forces

- ❑ Russell County Recovery Task Force is scheduled to meet July 13.
- ❑ The State Coordinator for Local Recovery Task Forces *will attend the above meeting.*

H. Miscellaneous Actions:

- ❑ VDH (Health) and DEQ (Environmental Quality) in Russell and Tazewell Counties continue to assist citizens with evaluating drinking water safety.
- ❑ Tetanus vaccinations remain available from the local health departments.

I. State Coordinating Officer

- ❑ Staffing adjustments continue, **6** state personnel assigned to recovery activities.
- ❑ Next Commonwealth sit-rep will be *Thursday, July 15*, and Tuesdays and Thursdays thereafter.
- ❑ *Continuing* contact with local Emergency Management Coordinators and other local officials.
- ❑ Coordinated State level Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding with FCO.
- ❑ *DFO closure date July 23, 2004.*

Signed, Brett Burdick, Deputy SCO

Authority of Michael M. Cline, State Coordinator
/s/ Brett A. Burdick, Deputy State Coordinating Officer

INDIVIDUAL ASSISTANCE-DAILY STATUS REPORT
FEMA DR-1525VA
July 13, 2004

COB: ***07-12-04***

TOTAL REGISTRATIONS	<i>880</i>			
DAILY REGISTRATION	<i>7</i>	DESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUM
		UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	<i>7</i>	<i>852</i>
			<i>0</i>	<i>24</i>

INDIVIDUALS & HOUSEHOLDS PROGRAM (IHP) OVERVIEW

Eligibility Rate	<i>93%</i>	Payments Apprv'd	<i>\$1,055,797.36</i>
Registrations Referred	<i>754</i>	Payments Disb'd	<i>\$958,348.86</i>
Registrations Approved	<i>558</i>		
Registrations Ineligible	<i>133</i>		
Registrations Withdrawn	<i>19</i>		
Registrations Pending	<i>44</i>	IHP Max Awards	<i>35</i>

HOUSING ASSISTANCE (HA)

Eligibility Rate	<i>93%</i>
\$ Amount Apvd	<i>\$970,845.21</i>
\$ Amount Disbursed	<i>\$958,348.86</i>
Referrals	<i>743</i>
Approved	<i>548</i>
Ineligible	<i>137</i>
Withdrawn	<i>19</i>
Pending HA Categories	<i>39</i>

OTHER NEEDS ASSISTANCE (ONA)

Eligibility Rate	<i>16%</i>
\$ Amount Apvd	<i>\$84,952.15</i>
\$ Amount Disbursed	<i>\$0.00</i>
Referrals	<i>281</i>
Approved	<i>32</i>
Ineligible	<i>81</i>
Withdrawn	<i>5</i>
Pending ONA Categories	<i>163</i>

INSPECTION SERVICES (IS)

Inspections Issued	<i>768</i>
Returned to FEMA	<i>756</i>
Outstanding	<i>12</i>
Inspectors in the Field	<i>3</i>
Turnaround Time	<i>01.13.01</i>
QC Inspections	<i>34</i>
% Of Inspections Completed	<i>98%</i>

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (SBA)

Home App. Issued	<i>416</i>
Business App. Issued	<i>68</i>
EIDL	<i>0</i>
Total App. Issued	<i>484</i>
Approved	<i>13</i>
Pending	<i>41</i>
Total \$ Approved	<i>\$236,600</i>

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS		OPEN	CLOSED	TODAY	CUMULATIVE
TAZEWELL (RICHLANDS)	FIXED	6/21/2004	7//10/04	<i>0</i>	<i>348</i>
TOTAL				<i>0</i>	<i>348</i>

DESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
BUCHANAN (COUNTY)	<i>3</i>	<i>107</i>
LEE (COUNTY)	<i>0</i>	<i>93</i>
RUSSELL (COUNTY)	<i>3</i>	<i>320</i>
TAZEWELL (COUNTY)	<i>1</i>	<i>332</i>
TOTAL	<i>7</i>	<i>852</i>
UNDESIGNATED COUNTIES	DAILY	CUMULATIVE
AUGUSTA (COUNTY)	0	1
BEDFORD (COUNTY)	<i>0</i>	1
DICKENSON (COUNTY)	0	<i>3</i>
DINWIDDIE (COUNTY)	0	1
HANOVER (COUNTY)	0	1
HENRY (COUNTY)	0	1
JEFFERSON (COUNTY)	0	1
PAGE (COUNTY)	0	1
SCOTT (COUNTY)	0	1
SMYTH (COUNTY)	0	1
SOUTHAMPTON (COUNTY)	0	1
WASHINGTON (COUNTY)	0	4
WISE (COUNTY)	0	2
TOTAL	0	<i>24</i>